

# RIDGE 2018

# EAST BENCH

# ZINFANDEL

DRY CREEK VALLEY  
SONOMA COUNTY

100% ZINFANDEL (organically grown)  
14.5% ALCOHOL BY VOLUME

## HISTORY

Ridge has made the East Bench as a single vineyard since 2006, one of the few Ridge zinfandels that is 100% zinfandel. The vineyard sits high atop the bench land that overlooks Dry Creek Valley from the east.

**FIRST RIDGE EAST BENCH:** 2006

## VINTAGE

**Rainfall:** 63.5cm (below normal)

**Bloom:** May

**Weather:** Winter rains were light this year, totaling 63.5cm. Rains in April and May helped the vines get through the summer.

**Harvest Dates:** 11 - 14 September

**Grapes:** Average Brix 24.7°

## WINEMAKING & TECHNICAL DATA

**Fermentation:** Natural primary and natural secondary (malolactic) fermentations; once daily pump-overs; pressed at nine days.

**Barrels:** 100% air-dried American oak barrels (10% new oak, 10% one-year-old, 20% two-year-old, 20% three-year-old, 20% four-year-old, and 20% five-year-old).

**Aging:** Twelve months in barrel

**pH:** 3.70 **TA:** 6.42 g/L **RS:** 0.26 g/L

Hand-harvested; estate-grown organic grapes; destemmed and crushed; fermented on the indigenous yeast, followed by a full malolactic on the naturally occurring bacteria; oak from barrel aging; minimum effective sulfur for this wine (0.04g/L at crush, 0.08g/L during aging); pad filtered at bottling. In keeping with our philosophy of minimal intervention, this is the sum of our actions.



**RIDGE**  
VINEYARDS

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*2018 Zinfandel, East Bench, bottled 12/2019*

*The growing season at this hilltop vineyard began favorably with mild spring weather. Thanks to steady, warm weather throughout August, all seven parcels were ready to pick by early September. After fermenting each separately, we chose six for their exuberant fruit, elegant tannins and balanced acidity. Enjoyable upon release this exemplary zinfandel will evolve over six to seven years.*

*JO (10/19)*



## SITE

**East Bench Vineyard** is located on the Eastern bench of Dry Creek Valley, Sonoma County

**Soils:** Gravelly clay loam

**Age of Vines:** Planted in 2000

**Training:** Head trained (no trellis), spur pruned

**Yields:** 74.5 hectoliters/hectare

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